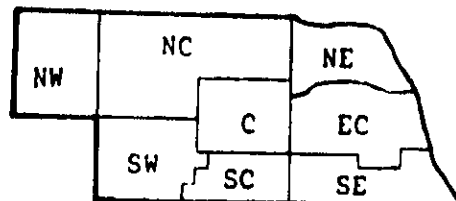


Run 2650

3-22-76 **NEBRASKA**

WEEKLY WEATHER & CROP REPORT

Nebraska
State-Federal
Division of
Agricultural Statistics



Statistical Reporting Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources - UNL

Release 3/22/76

Week Ending 3/19/76

WEATHER

The week began with temperatures 3 to 5 degrees below normal but warming rapidly, and by mid-week temperatures averaged 10 to 15 degrees above normal and remained above normal the remainder of the period. Precipitation in the form of rain and snow fell briefly over most of the State the first of the period and again over the west and central portions toward the end of the week.

GENERAL

The main activities of Nebraska farmers and ranchers this past week have been last minute maintenance jobs for spring work and caring for livestock. The recent rain and snow was welcome moisture but made many fields too wet for fieldwork. Some farmers have begun stalk shredding, plowing, and disking; but most are waiting for fields to dry out. Commercial fertilizer was applied on wheat and pasture ground where conditions permitted. Some farmers indicated an interest in planting small grains in poor stands of wheat. According to county agents, weather conditions permitted fieldwork only three days during the survey period.

Topsoil moisture supplies were short in 36% and adequate in 64% of the counties reporting. This was nearly unchanged from last week and compares to 39% short and 61% adequate the first week of April last year. Subsoil moisture supplies were reported short in 89% of the counties,

GENERAL (Cont.)

the same as last week and slightly improved from the 91% in early April last year. All districts report the need for additional rain to replenish the subsoil moisture.

CROPS

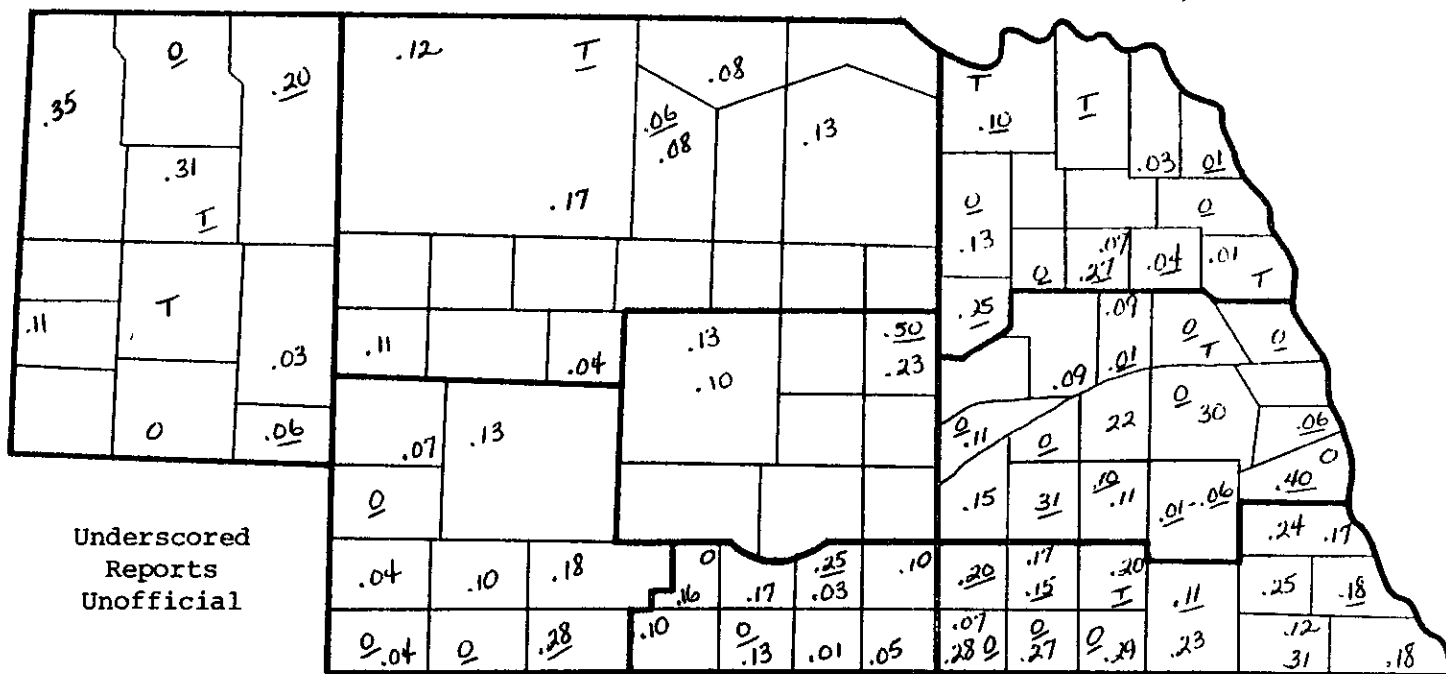
Winter wheat remained in mostly fair condition across the State. Best conditions were reported in the Northwest, South Central, and Southeast Districts while the smallest wheat producing districts, the North Central and Northeast, had the poorest conditions. Wind erosion was limited by the receipt of moisture this past week. In most areas, wheat was reported as greening up and beginning to grow. Reports continue to indicate spotty stands due to late planted wheat receiving inadequate moisture.

Alfalfa and wild hay remain in mostly fair condition.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range feed conditions are reported short in 69% of the counties. Limited grazing of stalk fields continues. Cool season grasses are starting to grow but it will be a while before they can stand much grazing pressure. Calving is getting into full swing across the State with generally good weather for the new-born animals. Losses appear to be minimal at this time.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1976



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1976

| Station | | Temperature | | | | Precipitation |
|---------|--------------------|-------------|-----|------|-----------|------------------------|
| | | Extremes | | Mean | Departure | Total Inches <u>1/</u> |
| | | Max | Min | | | |
| NW | Chadron | 70 | 19 | 41 | -- | .09 |
| | Scottsbluff | 72 | 18 | 41 | +7 | .02 |
| | Sidney | 70 | 13 | 39 | -- | T |
| NC | Burwell | 78 | 22 | 44 | -- | .14 |
| | Valentine | 70 | 10 | 39 | +8 | .17 |
| NE | Norfolk | 74 | 18 | 42 | +8 | .10 |
| | Sioux City | 78 | 23 | 42 | +8 | .01 |
| CEN | Grand Island | 76 | 21 | 44 | +8 | .16 |
| EC | Lincoln | 80 | 21 | 45 | +8 | .14 |
| | Omaha | 85 | 22 | 46 | +8 | 0 |
| SW | Imperial | 75 | 19 | 44 | -- | .08 |
| | North Platte | 72 | 18 | 40 | +6 | .11 |

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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